Fourteenth Loksabha

Session : 8
Date : 23-08-2006
Participants : Banerjee Kumari Mamata,Singh Shri Prabhunath,Dasmunsi Shri Priya Ranjan,Acharia Shri Basudeb,Pathak Shri Brajesh,Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar,Dasmunsi Shri Priya Ranjan,Singh Shri Mohan,Acharya Shri Prasanna,Radhakrishnan Shri Varkala,Yadav Shri Ram Kripal,Dhindsa Shri Sukhdev Singh,Dasgupta Shri Gurudas

an>

Title: Discussion on the motion for consideration of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2006.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House shall now take up item No. 17.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (PANSKURA): Sir, I have a point. I object to the statement explaining reasons why the copies of the Bill could not be circulated two days before. … (*Interruptions*)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप मिनिस्टर साहब के बाद बोल लीजिए। यह पहले ही इंट्रोड्युश हो चुका है। मिनिस्टर साहब, क्या आप इसके बारे में कुछ कहना चाहते हैं?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Members of the House that the Bill got the concurrence of the Cabinet day before yesterday. The very next day the House was adjourned because of the sad demise of a sitting Member. I also wanted to check the nitty-gritty and all the details of the Bill which took some time. Accordingly, I sought the indulgence of the House giving my notice to the Secretary-General on August 19th. . … (*Interruptions*)

श्री मोहन सिंह (देवरिया) : यह तो कल हो चुका है।

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Then, Sir, yesterday when the objection was raised I answered fully with the permission of the Chair.

I beg to move:*

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension

of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

---

*Moved with the Recommendation of the President.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. I would request the hon. Members who are present in the House, who may be having different views, to please kindly listen to me. It is a question of objection in principle.

श्री राजीव रंजन सिंह 'ललन' (बेगूसराय) : महोदय, इस विाय पर मैं भी बोलना चाहता हूँ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप नोटिस भेज दीजिए।

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, I do not say that the Members of Parliament do not have any financial difficulties. I admit that the Members have financial difficulties for many reasons like inflation, they have to entertain their guests, they have to go to their constituencies, they have other commitments, etc. I agree that they do have difficulties. I also agree that there should be a mechanism for the improvement of salary and allowances of the Members. I agree with that also.

Then what is my objection? My first objection is this. We are the lawmakers. We make the laws for the country. If the lawmakers themselves decide to increase their salary, that will not be looked upon in a nice way by the people.

14.00 hrs.

Please listen to me, my dear friends. I have my objections. … (*Interruptions*) I would like to say to the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs that if his party Members interrupt us, then, that is not a good thing. … (*Interruptions*) I am saying what I am saying. … (*Interruptions*) The point is that lawmakers are making law for themselves. You are constantly speaking. ऐसी बात मत बोलें। आप बहुत ज्यादा बोल रहे हैं। The point is, if the lawmakers make law for themselves which give additional financial benefit to themselves, it will be a matter of criticism among the public. Why? In the country, there is a serious economic distress, peasants are committing suicides, unemployment is increasing, 30 per cent of the people do not have two square meals a day. We are pleading for austerity. Government has announced a programme of austerity. I welcome the programme of austerity. There is a need to ensure that our expenses are reduced and more funds for development is invested. I agree that in this situation if we do this, it will have a bad effect on the people.

Secondly, I am submitting for the consideration of my hon. colleagues that in a situation of financial stringency, in a situation of curtailment of expenditure, in a situation of economic crisis, Members may be in difficulty – I agree that we are in difficulty – but we should not take upon ourselves the responsibility of increasing our salaries and allowances. … (*Interruptions*)

श्री प्रभुनाथ सिंह (महाराजगंज, बिहार) : यह सदस्य को धमका रहे हैं।

श्री गुरुदास दासगुप्त : मेहरबानी करके मेरी बात सुन लें। I am a dissenting voice. We are perhaps two dissenting voices in this House. Dissenting voice should be honoured. … (*Interruptions*)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने आपको दो मिनट का समय दिया है।

केवल गुरुदास दासगुप्त जी की ही बात रिकार्ड में जाएगी।

…(व्यवधान) *

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Let me conclude. … (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will allow you. But let me say - जिस सदस्य ने बोलना है, वह नोटिस दे दे। उसमें दो मिनट का समय दिया जाएगा, लेकिन इस तरह से हाउस को डिस्टर्ब करने की कोशिश न करें। This is my humble request.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I am aware that we are handful minority in this House; I am aware that we are representing a dissenting voice; I am aware that other hon. Members have a different view but it should be a matter of practice that minority view in this House. … (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded. Please sit down.

(Interruptions) *

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You should also conclude, Shri Dasgupta.

---

*Not Recorded.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I understand that where the shoe pinches. Nevertheless, I am saying that this dissenting voice may kindly be taken note of by Parliament and the Indian people that we are opposing it. … (*Interruptions*) This is the culture. … (*Interruptions*) Congressmen and this side are combining. It is good. It is good that people are in their true colours. … (*Interruptions*) Are you joining hands? … (*Interruptions*)

प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : आप अपनी बात कहिये। We know where the Congress Party people are living! … (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You shall conclude now, Shri Dasgupta.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): He has the right to oppose. Nobody has the right to pass such comments. … (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will give time to your leader also.

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (PANSKURA): Let me finish. Hypocrisy is unknown to us. … (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Shri Acharia.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : People are in true their colours when the crisis emerges. We strongly oppose this. We do not think that it should be done. There should be a separate mechanism for determining salaries and allowances to the Members, not by Parliament. … (*Interruptions*)

श्री राजीव रंजन सिंह 'ललन' :आपके दो चेहरे हैं। What is the mechanism in Bengal? … (*Interruptions*)

आपके बंगाल में क्या मैकेनिज्म है?

श्री हरिसिंह चावड़ा (बनासकांठा) : मैं माननीय गुरूदास दासगुप्त के साथ अपने को एसोसिएट करता हूं।

---

*Not Recorded.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I rise to oppose this legislation to increase the salaries and allowances of Members of Parliament. This is an embarrassment for us when we, the lawmakers ask for it. We oppose the legislation to increase the salaries and allowances of Members of Parliament. This is an embarrassment for us. There was a suggestion from the hon. Speaker after assuming the charge, he called the meeting of all the political parties. All are in agreement that there should be an independent Committee. We too examine the salary and allowances. There is a necessity or need for the increase in salaries and allowances of Members of Parliament. This is not the proper time. We could have waited for such a Committee because nowhere in the world – in any Parliament of other countries – where the salaries and allowances are increased by bringing in a legislation in the House. This is not the proper time also when the nation is facing crises. We are representing the people belonging to poorer sections, middle-class, and lower middle-class. We are asking for hefty increase in our salaries and allowances. In the case of Central Government employees, they had to wait for three years for the constitution of the Sixth Pay Commission. Government very recently has announced the constitution of the Sixth Pay Commission to recommend the revision of pay and allowances of Central Government employees.

We are now passing a legislation to increase our salary and allowances. My suggestion is, let there be an independent Committee, which should examine and recommend to the Government and then if there is a need to increase the salary and allowances, it should be implemented. I would suggest that instead of increasing the salary and allowances, other facilities should be augmented so that the Members of Parliament can function efficiently. It is the other facilities, with the help of which the Members of Parliament can function efficiently and not the money that is urgently needed. Hence, I oppose this legislation.

श्री मोहन सिंह (देवरिया) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, किसी भी सदस्य को, जब कोई विधेयक सदन में प्रस्तुत होता है, उसका विरोध करने का अधिकार है। हमारे देश का संविधान बनाने वालों ने बहुत बहस के बाद मदर पार्लियामेंट ब्रिटेन की पद्धति को स्वीकार किया कि संसद सदस्य, सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जज, भारत के राट्रपति और उपराट्रपति तथा हाई कोर्ट के जज के वेतन-भत्ते और सुि वधाओं के निर्णय संसद ही किया करेगी। उसी अधिकार के तहत समय-समय पर संसद सदस्य अपनी सुविधाओं में वृद्धि करते हैं। यह ऐसा मामला नहीं है, जिस पर संसद सदस्यों को बहुत हीनभाव से ग्रस्त होने की जरूरत है। केवल संविधान के प्रावधान के तहत भारत के संविधान में संसद सदस्य की सुविधाओं में वृद्धि अथवा कटौती करने के लिए संसद की एक सर्वदलीय कमेटी बनी हुई है। हम इसे आडम्बर मानते हैं कि कमेटी में बैठ कर हम सुविधा बढ़ाने या न बढ़ाने की संतुति करें और केवल खबरों में नाम छपवाने के लिए संसद में जब विधेयक आए, तो उसका विरोध करें, इसे मैं सही नहीं मानता हूं। यह बात सही है कि राज्य या सरकारी कर्मचारियों की तनख्वाह बढ़ाने के लिए वेतन आयोग गठित होता है।...(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing, except the speech of Shri Mohan Singh, will go on record.

(Interruptions) *

श्री मोहन सिंह : संसद सदस्यों का कोई वेतनमान निर्धारित नहीं है। जो वेतन आयोग गठित होता है, वह संविधान के अनुसार हर 10 साल बाद वेतन का पुनरीक्षण करता है। हमने देखा है कि महंगाई के हिसाब से जो महंगाई भत्ता होता है, उसे 10 साल के बाद बेसिक सैलरी में समायोजित कर दिया जाता है। संसद सदस्यों के लिए ऐसी कोई पद्धति नहीं है। इसीलिए वर्ा 2002 में संसद ने कुछ वृद्धि की थी और फैसला किया था कि वर्ा 2006 में फिर से वृद्धि करेंगे। मैं समझता हूं कि पांच साल में जो महंगाई बढ़ी है, 12000 में 4000 रुपयों की वृद्धि हुई। हिंदुस्तान के समाचार पत्रों और मीडिया ने आज से तीन दिन पहले मिसइंफोर्मेशन कैम्पेन चलाया। मैं समझता हूं कि वह निंदनीय है और उसके बारे में सोचना चाहिए। मुझे अफसोस हुआ कि संसद सदस्यों की तस्वीर स्टार टीवी पर दिखाई जा रही है और दिखाया गया कि सांसद हुए मालामाल। हमारी पत्नी ने कहा कि काफी माल बटोर कर लाए हो, उसमें से हमारा कितना हिस्सा है? मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि कुल 12000 रुपए में 4000 रुपए की वृद्धि हो कर 16000 रुपए तनख्वाह हुई है, जिसमें से 1500 रुपए टैक्स में चले जाएंगे। संसद सदस्यों को आयकर देने का रिवाज बनाना चाहिए टैक्स देना चाहिए। अगर देखा जाए तो वस्तुतः यह वृद्धि 2500 रुपए की हुई है। यह ऐसी वृद्धि नहीं है, जिस पर

---

*Not Recorded.

हम इस समय निंदा प्रस्ताव पास करें। यह सही है कि हम लोग समाचार पत्र और मीडिया की बातों से हीनभाव ग्रस्त हो जाते हैं। संसद सदस्यों के लिए कोई अलग मैकेनिज्म होना चाहिए। हमें उस मैकेनिज्म की याद उस समय आती है जब इस सदन में ि वधेयक प्रस्तुत होता है। कोई भी माननीय सदस्य इस दौर में न गैर-सरकारी विधेयक पेश करता है, न इस तरह का रैजोल्यूशन इस सदन में लाता है कि कोई अलग से मैकेनिज्म होना चाहिए या अलग से पे-कमीशन होना चाहिए। इस समय की वृद्धि जो सीमित वृद्धि है, मैं समझता हूं कि उसका विरोध करना, सिवाय आडंबर के कोई नैतिक बात नहीं है। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूं।

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी (कलकत्ता दक्षिण) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मैम्बर्स की सैलरी, एलाउंसेज और पैंशन बिल के बारे में दो-चार बातें कहना चाहती हूं। यह बात सत्य है कि मैं 20 साल पार्लियमैंट की मैम्बर रही हूं। तीन साल में तीन गवर्नमेंट गिर गई, इसलिए वह पीरियड भी इनक्लूड हो गया। मैंने 20 सालों में देखा कि जब कभी एमपीज की सैलरी बढ़ती है तो वामपंथी दोस्त, जिन्हें मैं दोस्त कहती हूं, उन्होंने हमेशा विरोध किया लेकिन वे रुपए पहले लेते हैं। मैं इसलिए नहीं कह रही हूं कि मैं इससे पूरी

तरह सहमत हूं। यह बात सत्य है कि एमपी का कानून एमपी क्यों बनाएं? इसके लिए इंडीपैंडेंट कमेटी होनी चाहिए। जब यह बिल पार्लियामैंटरी अफेयर्स मिनिस्टर ने इंट्रोड्यूस किया था तो उन्होंने कहा था कि एक इंडीपैंडेट कमेटी बनेगी। वह जरूर बननी चाहिए और आप सब खुश हो जाएंगे क्योंकि उससे आप सब की तनख्वाह दस गुना ज्यादा हो जाएगी। मैं पार्लियामैंटरी अफेयर्स मिनिस्टर से जानना चाहूंगी कि क्या यह बात सत्य है कि वर्ल्ड में पार्लियामेंट के मैम्बर्स को जो सैलरी और एलाउंसेज मिलते हैं, उसके मुकाबले इंडियन पार्लियामेंट के मैम्बर्स को वे बहुत कम मिलते हैं या नहीं? यदि नहीं तो मेहरबानी करके हाउस में बताएं। हम एक इंडीपैंडेट कमीशन जरूर चाहेंगे। हम नहीं चाहते कि हम अपनी सैलरी खुद फिक्स करें। ...(व्यवधान) मुझे अपनी बात कहने का मौका दीजिए क्योंकि मैं इधर से बोल रही हूं। मुझे अपनी बात कहने का हक है।

दो-तीन दिनों से कहा जा रहा है कि एमपीज की सैलरी इतनी बढ़ी है, उनको इलैक्ट्रिसिटी, वाटर और टेलीफोन फ्री है। I am also upset. It is disgusting. I am not blaming anybody. I am blaming myself. टेलीफोन कॉल्स जो फ्री हैं सो हैं लेकिन हम फील्ड में काम करते हैं। I am not working just as an individual Member. कोईपब्लिक रिप्रेजेंटेटिव्स केवल निर्वाचन क्षेत्र के लिए काम करते हैं, कोई देश के लिए काम करते हैं और कोई स्टेट के लिए करते हैं। इसमें डिफरेंस होता है। देश में कैपिटलिस्ट भी होते हैं, अपॉर्च्युनिस्ट भी होते हैं। बहुत से एमपीज और एमएलएज केवल पॉलिटिक्स ही करते हैं। वे एमपी और एमएलए छोड़ कर कुछ नहीं हैं। उन्हें तीन मेनटेनन्स करने पड़ते हैं - एक निर्वाचन क्षेत्र, दूसरा स्टेट और तीसरा जब दिल्ली में आते हैं। यह बात सत्य है कि दिल्ली में वाटर और इलैक्ट्रिसिटी फैसिलिटी में लिमिटेशन है और वह थोड़ी फ्री है। हम जब कोलकाता या दूसरी कोई जगह में रहते हैं they have to pay the cost of electricity and water. क्या यह बात सच नहीं है? People say that we are not paying the income tax. Of course, we are paying income tax. ऐसा कौन कहता है?बहुत से एमपीज और एमएलएज बहुत बड़े बिजनेसमैन और बैरिस्टर होते हैं। मैंने स्टुडैंट मूवमैंट से राजनीति की है। मेरा कैरियर सिवाय पॉलिटिक्स और पब्लिक की सेवा के कुछ नहीं है। I am speaking on behalf of MPs. People say that every MP is corrupt. करप्शन हर जगह है। सभी एमपीज को करप्ट कहना ठीक नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान) अगर लैफ्टिस्ट मैम्बर्स को यह मान्य नही है तो उनको करके दिखाना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान) मुझे बोलने दीजिए। Since 1991, I never traveled by executive class. In all these 17 years, I saved around Rs.20 lakh to Rs.40 lakh of this Parliament but I never said all this.

But today I am saying on behalf of all Members of Parliament. अगर आप खर्च को कम करना चाहते हैं, They can do it from their own expenses. They can do it voluntarily. Who told them not to do it? Let them do it and tell the Parliament that they have done it and that they have made the sacrifices.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप कंक्लूड करें।

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : कभी कहते हैं कि जब एम.पीज. बाहर जाते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)

आप हमें बोलने दीजिए, हमें बोलने का मौका नहीं मिलता है। मैं इस बिल पर नहीं बोली हूं। जब फॉरेन जाते हैं तो कहते हैं कि एम.पीज. को वहां डालर मिलते हैं। लेकिन यह बात ठीक नहीं है। उनमें कोई-कोई फॉरेन डेलिगेशन होता है, जैसे यू.एन. डेलिगेशन है। कहते हैं कि वहां सौ डालर मिलते हैं। लेकिन हम लोग कितनी बार बाहर जाते हैं। हम आठ-दस वर्षों से बाहर नहीं गये है और भी बहुत सारे एम.पीज. नहीं गये हैं। लेकिन फिर भी यदि कोई बाहर जाता है, किसी को देश बाहर भेजता है तो उसे वहां कितने रुपये मिलते हैं, मुझे इस बारे में पता नहीं है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : 75 डालर्स।

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : यदि वह ऑफिशियल डेलिगेशन है तो सरकार से आपको टिकट मिलता है, अकोमोडेशन मिलती है, खाना भी मिलता है। लेकिन जो बातें बाहर फैलाई जा रही हैं, वे ठीक नहीं हैं। कल से हमारे पास बहुत से फोन्स आ रहे हैं। अगर हम घर जायेंगे तो हमें लोगों को पैसा देना पड़ता है। किडनी ट्रांसप्लान्टेशन के एक लाख चालीस हजार रुपये के लिए पेशेन्ट्स एम.पी. के पास आकर पैसा मांगते हैं। यदि कोई हार्ट पेशेन्ट है और वह अस्पताल जाता है तो इंजैक्शन का भाव 25 हजार रुपये है। जो वह नहीं दे सकता है। वह हमसे मांगता है। कोई हार्ट ऑपरेशन के लिए जाता है तो वह तीन-चार लाख रुपये मांगता है। आज मैडिसन्स के भाव भी बहुत बढ़ गये हैं। किसी की बेटी की शादी है तो उसमें भी एम.पी. को पैसा देना पड़ता है। We are

bound to give. यदि किसी की मौत हो जाती है तो हमें पैसा देना पड़ता है। All are equal. क्याहम लोग बाहर से रुपया चोरी करेंगे, वह हम लोग नहीं कर सकते। This is not fair. एक तरफ आप ऑफिस ऑफ प्रोफिट के एडवांटेज लेते हैं। आप कहते हैं Law-makers cannot make their own laws. You can do it for Offices of Profit, but you cannot do it for the salaries and allowances for Members. जिसके पास ऑफिस है, जिसके पास अर्दली है, जिसे ऑफिस ऑफ प्रोफिट से गाड़ी मिलती है, जमीन मिलती है और रुपया मिलता है...(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing, except the speech of Kumari Mamata Banerjee, will be recorded.

*(Interruptions)**

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : जब हमारे मित्र बोल रहे थे तो हमने उन्हें सुना, अब मुझे बोलने का मौका मिला है तो उन्हें अब मुझे बोलने दीजिए। आप कहिये कि ऑफिस ऑफ प्रोफिट में जिसे डबल तनख्वाह या लाभ मिलता है उसे सैलरी लेने की क्या जरूरत है। मैं पार्लियामैन्ट्री अफेयर्स मिनिस्ट्री से विनती करती हूं कि जो डबल तनख्वाह लेते हैं, जिन्हें डबल अपोर्चुनिटीज मिलती हैं, उनके लिए एक सैलरी, एक अलाउन्स और एक पेन्शन होनी चाहिए, उन्हें डबल फायदा नहीं होना चाहिए। आप इसे कट ऑफ कीजिए, देश के लोग आपको आशीर्वाद देंगे।...(व्यवधान)

श्री गुरुदास दासगुप्त : हमें नहीं मिलता...(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No running commentary please.

श्री अशोक प्रधान (खुर्जा) : ममता जी ने इनका नाम नहीं लिया, फिर इन्हें परेशानी क्यों हो रही है?...(व्यवधान)

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : मैं विनती करना चाहती हूं कि आप इन्डिपैन्डैन्ट तरीके से बोले, आपको मैंने सपोर्ट दिया। लेकिन जो लोग डबल तनख्वाह लेते हैं, उन्हें डबल बिल्कुल नहीं देना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kumari Mamata Banerjee, please address the Chair.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded. Only Kumari Mamata Banerjee's speech should be recorded.

*(Interruptions)**

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : अगर किसी को डबल पेंशन मिलती है, किसी को सिंगल पेंशन मिलती है,...(व्यवधान) पेंशन सिंगल होनी चाहिए। इसमें सरकार का रुपया सेव हो सकता है।...(व्यवधान)

---

*Not Recorded.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : We have already enacted a legislation here.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : So what?... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, this is irrelevant. Is this all going on record?... (*Interruptions*) We are discussing the Bill here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. Shri Acharia, nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)**

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : सर, मैं पार्लियामेंट मिनिस्टर से एक रिक्वेस्ट करना चाहूंगी कि आप देख लीजिए कि वेस्ट बंगाल में फाइनेंशियल बैनेफिट हमारे एमएलएज लोगों को होता है। हमने सीपीएम को नहीं बोला।...(व्यवधान) जो सरकार में हैं, उनको नहीं मिलता है लेकिन हमारे एमएलए लोगों को मिलता है। अगर वे हमारे से कोई कम हैं तो उसका कानून कौन बनाता है ? उधर में कानून कौन बनाता है ? एमएलए बनाता है।...(व्यवधान) I will tell you.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : It is the lowest in the country..... (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, this is too much..... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : We speak the truth.... (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Are you speaking the truth? It is double standard..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, nothing is going on record. Please sit down.

(Interruptions) *

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I am speaking on behalf of the NDA..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. You are wasting the time of the House.

---

*Not Recorded.

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : सर, मैं इसीलिए कह रही हूं कि हमारे उधर में भी एमएलएज लोग कानून बनाते हैं। जो वेस्ट बंगाल में मैंने देखा तथा एक और बात यह है कि मेडिकल सुविधा उससे बहुत ज्यादा मिलती है। बाहर अगर चश्मा खरीदते हैं तो 25-30 हजार मिल जाता है। अगर बाहर प्राइवेट डॉक्टर को दिखाते हैं तो उसका भी आपको मिल जाता है लेकिन इधर एमपी को नहीं मिलता है। बाहर में भी नहीं मिलता है। यह आपको एडवांटेज है। If I am wrong, I may be corrected. I have got the evidence here. We are in the Opposition there. That is why, we know of all these things.... (*Interruptions*) इसीलिए मैं यह कहना चाहूंगी कि...(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, no running commentary.

... (*Interruptions*)

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : सैलरी के लिए कभी-कभी कोई कहता है कि हम अपनी सैलरी अपनी पार्टी को दे देते हैं। पहले तो एक पार्टी थी और जिन लोगों को हमने देखा, पहले कुछ फंड भी नहीं था। आज 44 करोड़ की जो बात यहां कही है लेकिन जिसके

पास कुछ नहीं था, आज कैसे उसके पास हजार-हजार करोड़ रुपया आ गया है।...(व्यवधान) 44 करोड़ को लेकर आप लोग इतना चिल्लाते हैं।...(व्यवधान) आप डबल स्टैंडर्ड की बात करते हैं।...(व्यवधान)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, what is this? Should we hear all these things? I want to know whether these are all going on record.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय :अगर कुछ ऑबजेक्शनेबल होगा तो डीलिट करा देंगे। आप बैठ जाइए। जब मैंने कह दिया कि अगर कुछ ऑबजेक्शनेबल होगा तो डीलिट करा देंगे।

...(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय :मैडम, अब आप भी कंक्लूड करें।

...(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : यह हाउस है, यहां लोकतंत्र है इन लोगों की मनोपोली नहीं है कि हमें बोलने नहीं देंगे।...(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आचार्य जी, आप बैठ जायें।

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, मैं कोई इन पर चार्ज नहीं लगा रही हूं, अगर लगाती तो ये कुछ कहते। मैंने चार्ज नही लगाया है I know the discipline of the House.मैं रिक्वैस्ट कर रही हूं कि चार साल के बाद एमपीज़ की सैलेरी, पेंशन बढ़ाना चाहिये।...(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : चक्रवर्ती जी, यह मेरा काम है, आपका कोई काम नहीं है। आप बैठ जायें।

कुमारी ममता बैनर्जी : इसलिये मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से कहना चाहती हूं कि जो सोच है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will see that. Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I will also disturb you when you speak. I want to tell the Minister that we have to go by what is correct. We have to face the truth. If it is correct, then we have to fight for it. Do not just think that MPs' name will be spoiled. बदनाम हो जायेगा, जो खाने वाले हैं, वे खाते हैं लेकिन सारे एमपीज बदनाम हो जाते हैं। We are not beggars. We have the respect. We have to take action, we have the mission and we have the vision. जो नहीं लेना चाहते voluntarily let them say "No". I would request the hon. Minister to start a VRS. Tell them take VRS so that they are not

able to come to the House because they do not want that MPs should work for the people.

रेल मंत्री (श्री लालू प्रसाद) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, मेरा पाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। इस विाय पर ममता जी कुछ वियान्तर हो गई थीं। मूल प्र श्न एम.पीज़ की सैलेरी और अलाउंसेज़ का है। इसमें बहुत गुंजाइश है, इसलिये इस बिल को जल्दी पास करायें।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (पटना) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, मैं इस बिल के समर्थन में खड़ा हूं। जिस तरह से इस बिल के बारे में मीडिया द्वारा प्रचारित किया जा रहा है, वह हम और आप सुन एवं देख रहे हैं। यह दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण बात है कि जब एक एम.पी. एक्स एम.पी. हो जाता है तो ऐसे बहुत से हैं जो भीख मांग रहे हैं, उनके पास दवा के लिये पैसे नहीं हैं, उनके पास अपने परिवार को देखने के लिये पैसा नहीं है। ऐसे लोगों की संख्या बहुत अधिक है। मैं यह बात साफ तौर पर कहना चाहता हूं कि सांसदों को बदनाम करने की कोशिश की जा रही है। जब-जब इस तरह का बिल सदन में आया है तो सांसदों को कटघरे में खड़ा किया जाता है। एक सांसद की सैलेरी 12 हजार रुपये है जिसे बढ़ाकर 16 हजार किया जा रहा है। इस चार हजार रुपये की वृद्धि से क्या होने वाला है? मैं व्यक्तिगत रूप से बताना चाहूंगा कि इसका कुछ भाग इनकम टैक्स के रूप में चला जायेगा। हम सब की वेदना यह है कि जिस तरह से महंगाई बढ़ रही है, पैट्रोल,डीजल,दवा, चावल, आटा और गेहूं के दाम बढ़ रहे हैं, 12 हजार रुपये में गुजारा कर पाना कहां तक संभव है? हम किस प्रकार अपने कर्तव्यों का निर्वहन कर सकते हैं? हमारे बाल-बच्चे हैं, परिवार है जिनकी देखभाल करना हमारा प्राथमिक कर्तव्य है। मैं बिहार प्रदेश से आता हूं जहां गरीबी, फटेहाली है। हमें व्यावहारिक रूप से अपने कर्तव्यों के नि र्वहन करने में जितनी कठिनाई होती है, आप स्वयं उसे अनुभव करते होंगे। आज महंगाई के युग में सांसद कैसे गुजारा कर रहे हैं क्योंकि उनके संसदीय क्षेत्र से सैंकड़ों लोग आते हैं और सवेरे-शाम उन लोगों को चाय का एक कप पिलाया जाता है।

यह हम मिनिमम खर्च दे रहे हैं जो सांसदों को देना अनिवार्य हिस्सा है। सभी सदस्य सही ढंग से अपने कर्तव्यों का नि र्वहन करना चाहते हैं। माननीया बहन ममता जी ने कहा कि हमारे पास लोग दवा के लिए आते हैं, इलाज के लिए आते हैं तो क्या हम उनकी मदद नहीं करेंगे? आप पांच साल के बाद वेतन वृद्धि कर रहे हैं, यह अच्छी बात है लेकिन यह अपर्याप्त है। माननीय मुंशी जी जो प्रस्ताव लाए हैं, यह अपर्याप्त है। आप इसमें 6000 रुपये पेंशन दे रहे हैं। हमारे परिवार पर निर्भर करेंगे, उसको छः हजार रुपये दे रहे हैं। इतने रुपयों में आज के युग में क्या आता है? हमारी जो विधवा रहेगी, उसको आप तीन हजार रुपये छः महीने के लिए दे रहे हैं। यह कानून में प्रावधान है। यह कैसे संभव है? लोग बवाल मचाकर रखने का काम कर रहे हैं। मैं आपसे पूछना चाहता हूं कि इस महंगाई के ज़माने में यह अपर्याप्त है। आपने जो व्यवस्था की है, मैं समझता हूं कि उसको बढ़ाना चाहिए। मैं तो यह निवेदन करूंगा कि आप इस सुविधा को बढ़ाइए और 16 हजार रुपये की जगह 20 हजार रुपये कीजिए। पैंशन में वृद्धि कीजिए और उसको छः हजार रुपये से बढ़ाकर दस हजार रुपये कीजिए। एक दिन सबको भूतपूर्व होना है। जनता ने किसी को परमानैन्ट चुनकर नहीं भेजा है। इसलिए इसको 10000 रुपये करने का काम कीजिए।

मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि सदस्यों को जो रेल का पास मिलता है उसमें पत्नी को सत्र में एक बार दिल्ली आने दिया जाता है। एक बार आइए और एक बार वापस जाइए। जब दूसरी बार आने की कोशिश करेंगे तो पकड़े जाइए। यह हालत है। क्यों नहीं इस नियम में संशोधन करते हैं? हमारे साथ हमारा भाई, बहिन, माँ या पिताजी भी हो सकते हैं या क्षेत्र की जनता में से कोई व्यक्ति भी आ सकते हैं। आपने स्पाउज़ एसैन्शियल कर दिया है। क्यों नहीं आप इस नियम को बदलते हैं? आप स्पाउज़ की जगह कंपैनियन और अटैन्डैन्ट करने का काम कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान) नियमों में परिवर्तन कीजिए।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : लालू जी, क्या आप कुछ कहना चाहते हैं?

श्री लालू प्रसाद : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्यों को यह जानकारी है कि रेल मंत्रालय यह काम नहीं करता है। सांसदों को जो सुख सुविधाएं और प्रिविलेज दिये जाते हैं, वे संसद की एक समिति में तय किये जाते हैं। रेल मंत्रालय केवल उसको एक्जीक्यूट करता है। अगर अध्यक्ष महोदय और सब मिलकर कुछ तय कर दें तो हमें कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)

श्री राजीव रंजन सिंह 'ललन' : रेल के बारे में तो आप अनाउंस कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)

श्री लालू प्रसाद : क्या क्या सुविधा सदस्यों को मिलेगी, वह संसदीय समिति तय करती है और फिर वह हमारे पास आता है। हमें कोई आब्जैक्शन नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप कनक्लूड करें।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : महोदय, अभी तो हमें बहुत सारी बातें कहनी हैं। ...(व्यवधान) कुछ आवश्यक बातें कहनी हैं। हवाई यात्राएं मात्र 32 से 34 की गई हैं। इसको 40 किया जाना चाहिए। अधिकांश सदस्य अब वृद्ध हो गए हैं इसलिए उनको तीर्थ यात्रा पर ले जाने के लिए ऑल इंडिया पास की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए।

महोदय, कई माननीय सदस्यों ने इसका विरोध भी किया है। ...(व्यवधान) यदि हम यह कानून पास नहीं करेंगे तो अगले पांच साल के लिए वृद्धि नहीं होगी और पहले वाला वेतन 4000 रुपये लेना पड़ेगा। मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि वैसे तमाम माननीय सदस्य जो इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं, उन् सबको पुराना वेतन दे दीजिए। नैतिकता की बात अलग है और व्यावहारिकता की बात अलग है। हम लोग मॉरल राइट्स पर बहुत बहस करते हैं मगर हम क्या कर रहे हैं यह भी तो दुनिया देख रही है। इसलिए मैं आपसे निवेदन करूंगा कि सांसदों को और सुविधाएं दी जानी चाहिए।

महोदय, आप सांसदों को डैवलपमैंट के लिए 2 करोड़ रुपये देते हैं। ये दो करोड़ नाकाफी है और इससे कितनी बदनामी और परेशानी होती है। आप इसे बंद कराने का काम क्यों नहीं करते हैं? आप उसकी एवज् में काम दीजिए, आप स्कूल बिल्डिंग और रोड आदि बनवाने की व्यवस्था का काम क्यों नहीं कर रहे हैं? मंत्री जी, आपने डीजल और पैट्रोल के दाम बढ़ा दिए, आपने आठ रुपए से 13 रुपए कर दिए, इसे और बढ़ाने की जरूरत है, 15 रुपए करने की जरूरत है।...(व्यवधान) जनता में जो संदेश जा रहा है, उसे भी क्लियर करें। एक-एक, दो-दो लाख रुपए कर दिए, पेपर में क्या-क्या छप रहा है, जब कि ऐसा कुछ भी नहीं है। इसलिए मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि जो कमी है, उस कमी को पूरा कीजिए। माननीय सदस्यों की इज्जत और प्रतिठा को देखते हुए ऐसी व्यवस्था कीजिए, हमेशा पार्लियामेंट में ऐसा कानून बनाने की व्यवस्था न हो, कोई परमानेंट व्यवस्था करा दीजिए ताकि आटोमेटिक पांच साल के बाद सुविधानुसार, जैसे कर्मचारियों एवं अन्य लोगों का वेतन बढ़ता है, उसी तरह सांसदों का भी बढ़े।

महोदय, इन्हीं चंद शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक (उन्नाव) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, धन्यवाद। आज हम लोग ऐसे बिल पर चर्चा करने के लिए खड़े हुए हैं, जिसकी चर्चा पूरे मीडिया जगत और हिन्दुस्तान में सर्वाधिक हुई है।...(व्यवधान)

महोदय, इस सत्र या पुराने सत्र में जितने भी बिल पास हुए होंगे, उनमें से सबसे ज्यादा चर्चा मीडिया में इस बिल की हुई। यह बिल हम लोगों के वेतन भत्तों के संशोधन के संबंध में है। हम वर्तमान सदस्यों के बारे में जो कुछ आपने और कमेटी ने किया, वह अच्छा किया, हम उसका समर्थन करते हैं, लेकिन हम उन पुराने सदस्यों की लड़ाई लड़ना चाहते हैं जो गैलरी में घूमते हैं, सदन के गेट पर आते हैं, बुजुर्ग हैं। हमारी माता, बहन एवं दादी के समान अपनी पत्नी को लेकर आते हैं, उनकी जो दुर्दशा है, उनकी तरफ हम आपका ध्यान आकृट कराना चाहते हैं। उनके पास उनका इलाज कराने के लिए दवाई के लिए पैसे नहीं हैं, ट्रेन में यात्रा की सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं है। उन्हें पेंशन के नाम पर तीन हजार रुपए मिलते हैं। हम आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहते हैं, इस मुद्दे पर कोई बड़ा भााण नहीं देना चाहते, क्योंकि यह हम लोगों से जुड़ा हुआ मुद्दा है। हम लोगों को पूरे हिन्दुस्तान की मीडिया ने कटघरे में खड़ा करने का प्रयास किया कि हमने खजाने से खुद के लिए पैसा निकाला। वास्तव में मुझे शर्मीन्दगी होती है, क्योंकि हम लोग समाजसेवा से जुड़े हैं, ऐसे बहुत कम लोग हैं, जो अपना कोई व्यक्तिगत काम-धंधा करते हों। हम लोग शुरु से ही राजनीति के पेशे से जुड़े हैं, हम लोग अन्य कोई धंधा नहीं करते। घर में बीवी, बच्चों की पढ़ाई-लिखाई और भोजन आदि पर खर्च होता है, इसलिए उसके लिए कहीं न कहीं से इंतजाम करना पड़ेगा, यह व्यावहारिकता है, लेकिन नैतिकता कहती है कि हम देश के उन गरीब तबके के लोगों के लिए काम करें। हम उन पुराने माननीय सदस्यों के लिए अपनी भावना व्यक्त करना चाहते हैं कि उनकी पेंशन के साथ महंगाई भत्ते को भी जोड़ दिया जाए।

महोदय, हमने इस संशोधन को प्रस्तुत किया था, लेकिन हमें लगता है कि इस संशोधन को स्वीकार नहीं किया गया। हम आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहते हैं कि जो पेंशन है, उसे आठ हजार रुपए कर दिया जाए और उसके साथ महंगाई भत्ता जोड़ दिया जाए तथा जैसे-जैसे महंगाई भत्ता बढ़े, वैसे-वैसे हमारे भूतपूर्व माननीय सदस्यों को भी लगातार उसकी सुविधा मिलती रहे। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (SAMBALPUR): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I would like to say that I have given notice of an amendment. I do not know why that amendment has not been circulated. My amendment was that whoever Member wishes not to take salary, pension and allowances, that amount should be remitted to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. This was my amendment. I do not know why that amendment has not been circulated. This is the first point.

Secondly, a few years back, I came across a news item in a newspaper. That news item concerned to an ex-MLA of West Bengal. I do not remember the name of that ex-MLA. I do not even remember to which party he belongs. That ex-MLA of West Bengal is now a rickshaw puller. He pulls the rickshaw. This was the news item which appeared two years back in a newspaper.

So, my point is, there is a wrong notion in this country and with due apology, I want to say that this wrong notion has been spread by our friends in the media that both the Houses of Parliament, namely the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha belong only to rich people. This is completely a wrong notion. Do they want to say that this House should be represented only by industrialists? Do they want to say that this House should be represented, as Mamtaji was saying, only by leading practitioners of various professions in this country and big industrialists and businessmen?

Sir, I know even today there are Members in this House who were Primary School Teachers earlier. I know particularly one hon. Member in the Rajya Sabha belonging to one of the Left Parties who was a school teacher throughout his life and now he is a Member of the Rajya Sabha. There may be many Members in this House also whose financial background is not sound. So, why is this double standard? Why is this hypocrisy? Let us call spade a spade. As Kumari Mamta Banerjee demanded, I would like the Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, if he has information, to let us know the comparative picture of salary and allowances of Members of Parliament of the whole democratic world, as to what is happening in other Parliaments and how much salary and other benefits they are taking.

Sir, there was a leader in my own State and his name is Utkal Gaurav Madhusudan Das. He resigned from the then Assembly because his proposal of not accepting salary and allowances by Members was rejected by the Assembly and, therefore, in protest he resigned, but days have changed. As you heard just now, there are many Members in this House who are in politics right from their student career. I hail from a textile business family, but I handed over my business to my nephews and my brothers. If my brother calls me and asks me to take care of the business, I cannot do that because since my student career I am in politics. I am not even capable of taking care of my

family business now. I am almost a full time politician. What shall I do? So, let us not be hypocritic. Let us be very clear on this.

Then, I agree with the suggestion made by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta. There is some morality involved in this. Let us not take on ourselves the responsibility of deciding our own salary, allowances and pension. I agree with him. Let there be a separate Committee where no Member of Parliament should be associated and let that Committee take a decision. I agree with this proposal.

With these few words, I support this Bill.

श्री प्रभुनाथ सिंह (महाराजगंज, बिहार) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन का ध्यान दो-तीन बिन्दुओं की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। सर्वप्रथम तो यह कि जब यह विाय कैबीनेट में गया तब और उसके बाद कैबीनेट से वापस आने पर जिस प्रकार से मीडिया में प्रचार हुआ, वह ठीक नहीं था। मैंने खुद कई मीडिया चैनलों को फोन कर के बताया कि ऐसा नहीं है, तब कहीं उन्होंने इस खबर को प्रसारित होने से रोका। इस प्रकार सांसदों के चरित्र-हनन का जिस प्रकार से मीडिया द्वारा प्रयास किया जा रहा है, यह बिलकुल ठीक नहीं है।

महोदय, मीडिया-कर्मियों को तो एक लाख और कही-कहीं डेढ़ लाख रुपए महीने वेतन के रूप में मिलते हैं। मैं उनके खिलाफ नहीं हूं, लेकिन उन टी.वी. चैनलों के जो मालिक हैं, वे सांसदों के खिलाफ निरन्तर दुप्रचार कर रहे हैं और बिना किसी सुबूत और जानकारी के सांसदों के चरित्र-हनन का प्रयास करते हैं। इसलिए मेरी आपके माध्यम से सदन से प्रार्थना है कि इस प्रकार का एक कानून बनाया जाए जिसमें ऐसी व्यवस्था हो कि यदि मीडियाकर्मी किसी प्रकार के दोाी पाए जाएं, तो उन्हें भी गिरफ्तार कर के जेल में डाला जा सके।

महोदय, हमारे मित्र श्री गुरुदास दासगुप्ता, बहुत वरिठ सांसद हैं। वे बहुत समय से संसद में हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि सांसदों के वेतन तथा भत्ते बढ़ाने के लिए किसी मैकेनिज्म की तलाश की जाए। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि सांसदों के वेतन-भत्ते के निर्धारण का काम क्या आप ब्यूरोक्रेट्स के जिम्मे या न्यायपालिका के जिम्मे करना चाहते हैं, यदि ऐसा सोच रहे हैं, तो यह बिलकुल ठीक नहीं है। वर्तमान सिस्टम कितना अच्छा है, जिसमें जब सांसदों के वेतन-भत्ते एवं अन्य सुविधाएं बढ़ाने की जरूरत महसूस हुई, तो एक सर्वदलीय कमेटी बना दी। उसमें से चुन-चुन कर सांसदों की एक जाइंट कमेटी बना दी। ज्वाइंट कमेटी ने अपना प्रतिवेदन दिया, कैबिनेट ने उस पर समीक्षा की और कमेटी के हर प्रतिवेदन को उन्होंने स्वीकार नहीं किया है, उसमें कटौती भी की है। इसके अलावा कौन सा मैकेनिज्म चाहते हैं? मैकेनिज्म का कोई सुझाव नहीं देते हैं। मैकेनिज्म शब्द का बार-बार इस्तेमाल करके खेल खेलते हैं।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इनको पाखण्डी नहीं कह सकता हूं, जैसा कि और लोगों ने कहा है। मैं सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि आप एक छोटा सा संशोधन और जोड़ लीजिए कि यदि कोई सदस्य कम पैसा लेना चाहे या पूराना मूल वेतन लेना चाहे, उसको वह लेने की इजाज़त दी जाए। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे गुरूदास दासगुप्ता जी ही नहीं, जितने भी हमारे कम्यूनिस्ट लोग हैं, सिद्धांतवादी लोग हैं, इनकी बात सिद्धांत पर हो रही थी। ये नैतिकता वाले लोग हैं। ये कभी-भी कोई अनैतिक कार्य नहीं कर सकते हैं। इसलिए आप ऐसा संशोधन कर दीजिए ताकि कोई इनको पाखण्डी या अनैतिक न कह सके, सिद्धांतविहीन न कह सके। इसलिए हमको विश्वास है कि अपने आपको बचाने के लिए निश्चित तौर पर जो पहले मूल वेतन मिलता था, ये वही लेंगे, इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA (ROPAR): Hon'ble Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important Bill in Punjabi. I support this Bill whole-heartedly.

Many Hon'ble Members have given valuable suggestions on this Bill that deals with the salary, allowances and pension of Members of Parliament. The Government has taken a commendable step. There are many Members of Parliament who are poor and have no other means to sustain themselves. Some Hon'ble MPs may be affluent too. However, the way media has indulged in a smear campaign against us, is a matter of great concern. Something should be done to check this practice.

In reality, the increase in the salary, allowances and pension of MPs envisaged in this Bill is a pittance. It is a drop in the ocean. How will it help the Hon'ble Members of Parliament? It has been reported in the newspaper today that DDA is selling flats at the whopping rate of Rs.56 lakhs per flat. How many MPs can afford to purchase these flats? So, various facilities should be granted to the Hon'ble Members of Parliament. It is the need of the hour.

Ex-MPs are in a miserable condition. I have seen them from close quarters. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please maintain silence in the House.

*SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA :The plight of ex-MPs evokes pathos in us. I urge upon the Government to increase the pension of ex-MPs to at least Rs.15,000/-.

Moreover, Sir, I propose that every Hon'ble MP should be given an insurance policy of rupees one crore. There is considerable risk factor involved in the work that we do.

***English translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.**

Sir, the minimum daily wage of labourers should also be increased. I strongly support this measure. However, it is unfair to criticise the nominal increase being made by the Government in the salary, allowances and pension of Hon'ble Members of Parliament. The Labour Unions should also work for the welfare of the workers. With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (JOYNAGAR): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the Government has introduced a Bill hiking salaries, allowances and pensions of the Members of Parliament. The Bill has not found the support among the people in general.

People think that the Members of Parliament are increasing their own salaries. This has sent a wrong signal. Moreover, this is not the appropriate time when the common man is facing many problems in our country. In my view, the hike is not justified. Let the Government set up a mechanism which will go into the details of salary and allowances of MPs and give its report. Let the Government wait for some time. With these words I conclude and I oppose the Bill.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): I have already opposed even the introduction of the Bill. Now, the question before us is very simple. I think that the right hike in salaries and allowances for MPs and MLAs is not a sin. It is an usual occurance. It can take place every now and then, but the way in which it has been done is the matter of concern. In Kerala State as well as in other States, MLAs' pensions and MLAs' allowances are increased. Nobody finds fault with it. Here also, MPs are entitled to get hikes in their allowances and pension. There is no doubt about that. But the question is this. How do we do it? It is an admitted fact that the Parliament is having the right to decide. It is the ultimate authority to decide the salary, allowances and pension. We have been entrusted with that task by the Constitution. It is a constitutional right. We have the right to do it. How we do that is the most important question.

Here is an instance where we find that a Committee consisting of Members of Parliament has discussed the issue and made certain recommendations. Those recommendations came into the Press. Now, when I return to my constituency, people will ask me that I am getting nearly Rs. 1 lakh per month. But, what exactly is the position? The Government would not accept it. But they are ready to ask. They have produced all those recommendations. The recommendations that they have accepted are increasing the daily allowance and also increasing the number of air journeys from 32 to 34. That is what is done now. But we have become passionate for the simple reason that the recommendations of the MPs were give wide publicity in the Press and we were forced to oppose it. That is the situation which is created now. That is why I say that this job should be done by an independent agency not connected with MPs. We can take a decision on the recommendation by an independent agency. We may get a report from the independent agency suggesting the increments to be made. In each and every aspect, we will consider it. That is the judicious way and reasonable way of doing things. But we ourselves decided for a Standing Committee to go into the question and then give it wide publicity.… (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister.

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : So, I would like to request the Government; the Government could have done one thing. The present Salary, Allowances and Pension Bill is due to expire by September. Some time could have been extended. It is because we are now discussing about the farmers distress in this House. On the very same day, could we discuss about our hike in salary and allowances? That is the reason why this job should be entrusted to an independent agency and we will accept their recommendations. That is what I have to say. I welcome the suggestion that the matter will be referred to the Committee.… (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister.

… (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. Nothing is going on record. The Minister is on his legs.

(Interruptions) *

---

* Not Recorded.

15.00 hrs.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first of all, I am thankful to all the hon. Members who have supported this Bill and who have opposed this Bill.

Sir, when I entered in this House in 1971, I was one of the youngest Members of this House. I also feel that we have a larger commitment to the people. We are literally the servants of the people and we should take care of the people first in this House and then ourselves. Naturally, Sir, that spirit should continue to grow more among the Members of Parliament and Legislators in the States.

First of all, I would like to tell you about the mechanism. Parliament, by its own wisdom, brought article 106 in the Constitution. Parliament and even the Constitution makers felt in those days that we have to legislate even the law pertaining to Salary and Allowances of the Members of Parliament. Who will legislate? Parliament will legislate it. Who will legislate the law? Parliament will legislate the law. Who will give the recommendation for this legislation? There were two opinions. One opinion was that let a Committee of Parliament comprising of all Parties go through it, give a recommendation, and the Government would consider whether that recommendation to be accepted or not. The other opinion was that let some third force outside Parliament examine the matter and give a recommendation, and let the Government then decide it on its merit. In that

matter, a number of Members of Parliament often said: "Once we say Parliament is supreme, should the Members of Parliament's fate, privilege and salary to be scrutinized by a body outside Parliament or should it be within Parliament?" That debate is not over. I am not making any comment on that. Please do not misunderstand me.

The hon. Speaker of the Lok Sabha has very rightly advised the Government that for more sanity of Parliament and the conduct of the Members, could it be by some mechanism which appears to be more transparent free from any interest of the Members of the House. We do not discourage the suggestion made by the hon. Speaker. It is one of the highly appreciated suggestions. What is my response to that? First I would like to deal with that because we cannot ignore the public perception, the sentiment and advice of the hon. Speaker.

Sir, the Joint Committee is chaired by Shri Giridhar Gamang, who is one of the able and longstanding Parliamentarians of the House and who represents the tribal community of his area. He not only delivered this recommendation alone but he was also accompanied by Members of Parliament of all Parties including CPM Member, Shri Vijayaraghavan. That Committee came out with this suggestion. The Joint Committee recommended that the Government should consider working out the modalities of a permanent mechanism for determination of Salary and Allowances of Members of Parliament in consultation with the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, and the Leaders of recognized political parties in both the Houses of Parliament, and bring a suitable legislation before Parliament. This was the recommendation of the Committee, which was appointed by the House. Please give all possible thanks to the Committee Members who, on their own, responded and gave a recommendation.

The hon. Speaker had also convened a meeting of the leaders of all political parties on 23rd March to evolve a mechanism for periodical revision of Salary and Allowances of the Members of Parliament. All the leaders unanimously agreed in principle to a proposal for setting up a Salary Commission consisting men of eminence from the fields of finance, planning, Constitution law, etc. for recommending Salary and Allowances of the Members of Parliament. I am happy to inform that the Government have agreed in principle to set up a permanent mechanism for recommending Salary and Allowances of the Members of Parliament, and a suitable amendment in this matter called 'Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members Act' for this purpose will be brought up in the next Session of Parliament.

Since the Joint Committee has already made recommendations regarding the salaries and allowances, it is proposed to amend the Act now for a period of five years; and a permanent mechanism would be set up before the constitution of the 15th Lok Sabha. The Government also, in its spirit and mechanism, endorsed the recommendations and the spirit of the hon. Speaker. So, there is no dispute about it. I am coming out with another piece of legislation.

This legislation, for which I seek your support to pass today, is for only five years. Why is it for five years? I would give the reason. Many hon. Members, especially, Shri Sanat Kumr Mandal, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta and Shri Basu Deb Acharia, for whom I have great respect had asked: "What is the hurry? Why now?" I am explaining the hurry. My distinguished predecessor -- who

was my best friend, and who is no more now -- late Pramod Mahajanji, the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, brought the legislation in 2001. When it was brought in 2001, it was mentioned in the Amendment Act that Rs. 4,000 be substituted by word Rs. 12,000, and the ethics of that Rs. 12,000 is valid up to 14th September, 2006. Therefore, if I cannot get this legislation passed before 14th September 2006, we would go back to Rs. 4,000. So, that was the legal compulsion on the part of the Joint Committee and on the part of the Government to bring this legislation in this Session, because there is no House in September.

Therefore, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Members of the House that it was not the Government's intention to make it in hurry, but it was to suit the legal compulsion of the earlier Act, which was amended in 2001, whose validity is only up to 14th September, 2006. So, if we did not do it, from 15th September the salary would have been computed as Rs. 4,000, and all that which had been effected in the earlier five years scene, would have been nullified. Naturally, therefore, the Government had no other option but to come forward with the legislation, as recommended by the Joint Committee on Salary and Allowances.

Sir, I do agree that in the perception of the media, if anything goes in the name of legislation, it is the most juicy, it is the most choosy, it is the most TRP increasing item of the electronic media. I know it. I do not criticise the media; they have their leverage; they have their *azadi*; they have their freedom; and they have their way of functioning. And also, I do not want to cast aspersion as the Minister of Information and Broadcasting; I do not question the *bona fide* and legitimacy. But I would like to say that the facts should be placed first. What are the facts? I profusely thank this Joint Committee on Salary and Allowances for the kind of hard work they had done. They had collected all the information of the world and tabulated it. They had gone through each and every aspect meticulously while preparing the Report. One should go through the Report to know as to how they have prepared it.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): It may be circulated.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Yes, it would be done.

I tell you, with all responsibility at my command that we are the only lucky or the unlucky MPs of the world, who represent the largest numbers of the electorates in the world, in democracy. I can also say so among the developed democracies and the developed nations. I can give the examples of Canada, UK, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, and Germany. Our hon. Speaker, after the visit of the World Cup Football and after the visit of Germany, had also told me "When I went to the German, Bundestag, I found each MP had an office fitted with all the gadgets." I was surprised to hear all this. They are getting 7,000 Euros. If we minus the tax etc., they are getting 4,000 Euros; and if we convert and calculate in terms of Indian rupees, their salary per month is beyond Rs. 3 lakh. I did also ascertain the facts.

Let us not make ourselves very small. We are not doing something wrong in the country. Now, I would just give you two examples. The first example is that, an MP is representing on an average, one million electorates. Does he need an in-built supported office free from allowance in

his Constituency? If you say, yes, then you calculate the infrastructural cost. It would be in a good proportion.

Does he need an in-built supported office in Delhi? If you say, yes, you calculate the infrastructural cost of his office, his car, his telephone, his Secretary, his personal staff and everything in the two offices.

It is in Canada. It is in Germany. It is in UK. We are improving. We are modernising our activities. It is on what basis? It is without any infrastructural support. Therefore, if some day you raise a debate saying that, no we will not take money, but it is better that we will ask the Government to give us infrastructure, then I will welcome it. Have we got an in-built constituency office? Whomsoever is elected, is he entitled to an office in the constituency and an in-built office in Delhi?

Otherwise, what happens is that the office is the house of the MP. Thousands of people come in the morning from constituency by train. They go and catch hold of the MP. They wait for hours together for him thinking when he will go to Parliament, when he will come back from Parliament and when he will dispose of the issue. This is the hard reality. Let us understand that. Unless the MP has a well-paid personal staff, he cannot dispose it of.

When I came to Parliament in 1971, I remember I had to go and type my letter in the Typing Pool here. I had to wait for two hours because other MPs were waiting. On some days, I had to give it in writing, collect the letter in the evening and then post it. Those were the days in 1971. Now, maybe, things have been improving in this present situation. Therefore, let us not blame each other. None of the MPs is dishonest. None of the MPs tries to misuse these things. What happens is that we ourselves are painting a picture of ourselves as if we are very bad people. We are not. In every system, there may be someone who is a black sheep. For that, why should we colour the entire fraternity of parliamentarians? How much trouble do they take?

To serve one member of the electorates, in terms of getting his petition, then to read it, forward it, follow it up and for going through all these things, I have calculated myself that the MP has to spend, in a month, for one letter, including telephone calls, Rs.65. This is to give justice to one petition, one letter of an electorate of the constituency. I am talking of one electorate. Therefore, if we simply say we can take care of everything, it is not correct.

Let us honestly confess to the nation that we are serving the people with minimum possible support that the Government could afford us. We are not serving the people in a luxurious manner that the Government is giving beyond the world parameters or beyond even the Asian parameters. If I say Asian parameters, I take the examples of three nations, namely Singapore, Malaysia and our neighbour Sri Lanka. The per month salary of the MPs of Sri Lanka is not Rs.16,000. It is Rs.22,500. Therefore, I humbly submit that we are serving the nation.

Yes, I fully share the perception expressed by Mr. Gurudas Dasgupta. He has asked this question. At a time when the rocketing price is hitting the commoners, at a time when the farmers are committing suicides, will it look nice that the MPs are increasing their salary? If you see the

perception, we should not increase the salary. But if you see the reality, yes, we have to increase the salary. It is because if I am to address the situation, I will address it like this.

Protecting the farmers is also a duty of the Government. Our Government is aggressively addressing this issue. Price rise in the oil front, you know, is not because of us but it is because of the international scenario. We are facing all the burdens. Earlier the diesel consumption limit was 22 litres. Now, there is price rise. We cannot help you. It is because of that price rise if the MP is asked that he has to consume 10 litres of diesel, he cannot make tours in his constituency more than twice. But if you ask him to do, he has to take the patronage from someone. I tell you very honestly as a Minister and also as a Member of the House that if anyone who takes patronage for any support, then he also tries to get something done for his own interest. Patronage never comes straightaway voluntarily. Do you like to free the pollution from around us?

One day I was discussing this matter in the House of Commons when I went as a part of the Delegation to the United Kingdom. They were telling us that they knew how many people we represented. But if you want to do justice to the electorates, where is the infrastructure? Do you have a car in your constituency? I said: "No". Do you have a car in the Capital? I said: "No". Do you have two Private Secretaries—one in the constituency and one here? I said: "No". I am talking of those days in 1971-72. Tulsidasappa was leading the Delegation. Therefore, let us understand the reality that how much we should expect and how much we should not.

Now, I come back to the ex-MPs.

You take the case of ex-MPs. Let there be a social study. I am keen to study it. About 85 per cent of our ex-MPs are from the common class. A few among them are in difficult position, whatever be the reason, family separation or whatever it is. I know it. In the Central Hall, a few of us, cutting across Party lines, from our pockets gave some donation for the admission and education of their children or for some physical ailment for which CGHS cannot afford to pay to them. चन्दा लेने आते हैं कि 100 रूपए दे दीजिए। They say give us something. They interact with us in the Central Hall. These things are not studied.

There was an ex-MP in Asansol, when I came here for the first time, from the Left Parties who wrote me a letter. What are you thinking of this fellow? He was a Muslim ex-MP from Asansol. He was in a pathetic condition. He was about to beg in the roads, having served the people so much. I know, I can tell you the name of Shri Dhiren Haldar. Kumari Mamata Banerjee will agree with me. He was an MLA from Balagarh. When I saw him I did not believe. I saw him in the bus stand to sell some biscuits and other things and also beg. There was another person, Rajaraman Sharma of Nawadweep who used to sell small towels on the road to the tourists. These pictures never come in the television. These pictures never appear. The pictures that appear are few. It is not correct.

Therefore, if you want to serve the people in the best possible manner, we have to make sure that the MP is supported to the extent this nation can afford and not beyond. We did not accept all the recommendations of the Joint Committee of Parliament. We did not accept. We reduced them, we slashed them.

My only appeal to the hon. Members of the House is – please bear with us, we are not doing anything, making an MP a super power or a superman in terms of financial purposes, but to bear the minimum expenses that in this situation one MP requires. I agree with Kumari Mamata Banerjee about the point of MPs who are from rural areas and also of some urban areas. There are constituents who come to the MP and sit in the house of the MP asking for something for the purpose of marriage of the daughter. कुछ तो दीजिए, कुछ तो दीजिए। In your social responsibility, you cannot simply brush them aside and say – 'get out, go to my Party office or go to somewhere else'. 100 रूपए या 200 रूपए देना ही पड़ता है। अब हम क्या करें? It is a reality in Indian life. It is not a reality of the life in UK or Germany or in Singapore.

Therefore, I do not think that the Government is doing something, a special favour to the MPs or a special patronage to the MPs but is giving just, required bare minimum as supported by the Joint Committee which is represented by all Parties. The only suggestion that Shri Vijayaraghavan of CPI(M) made in the Committee was to have a mechanism which I endorsed. Otherwise, this support or the recommendation is unanimous. It is not a partisan recommendation in the Joint Committee. It was by all Parties. … (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (PANSKURA): Will you set it up? Will you set up a mechanism? … (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I said it. You did not hear. … (*Interruptions*)

I come back quickly to the Bill. The existing provisions regarding salary and daily allowance were for five years. It will expire on 14th September. Therefore, I had to bring it. The Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances, on 22nd May, 2006 has submitted the Report on the entire matter. After due consideration the Government decided to implement most of the recommendations along with the recommendation of the parliamentary mechanism which will be effective for 15th Lok Sabha.

The proposals which involve the amendment of the Act have been included in the Bill and they are as follows. The salary is being raised from Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 16,000 per month. The daily allowance is being increased from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000. When I studied the report, I found that in Patna in Bihar there is a provision that if Members have to go and to attend any meeting outside Patna, he would get Rs. 1,000. So, I have not done something superfluous or extraordinary than the Indian Parliament. The increase of salary and daily allowance will be effective from 14th September, 2006 for five years or until they are later changed. The road mileage is now eight rupees. We have accepted the recommendation of the Committee to make it 13 rupees per kilometre.

Sir, the physically handicapped Members – we have included a new provision – who cannot travel by rail or air will be entitled to perform the entire journey by road and claim the road mileage at the rate of Rs. 13 per kilometre. The physically handicapped Member will also be entitled to travel facility by road along with a companion in lieu of travel facility by rail or air for the Member and the companion and may claim the road mileage at the same rate.

Sir, when this Act was there, there were only Consultative Committees. Now, there are Standing Committees and also some Joint Committees. So, in order to enable the Members to travel more frequently during the interval of two sittings of the Parliamentary Committees, particularly during the break period of Budget Session, and claim Travelling Allowance, it is proposed to accept the recommendation of the Joint Committee to reduce the period from seven days to five days. I have reduced it by only two days.

Air journeys from any place in India to any other place in India allowed to a Member as per the present position are 32. We have increased it to 34 only. Members will be entitled to carry forward unutilised air journeys for the remaining term and to adjust eight excess air journeys against the next year's entitlement.

Ex-Members of Parliament from Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep are being provided the facility of travelling by steamer between the Islands and the mainland. At present, an ex-Member is not entitled. We have included the ex-Member also.

At present, the minimum pension allowed to ex-Member of Parliament is Rs. 3,000. The Committee recommended Rs. 8,000. We have agreed for Rs. 6,000. But Ex-Members of Parliament Association met me yesterday, had long deliberations and explained their cause. So, I went back to the Prime Minister and apprised him of the condition of the ex-Members of Parliament. Finally, we have agreed and I will come out with an official amendment to accept the recommendation of the Joint Committee to make it Rs. 8,000.

The additional pension for each year in excess of five years is being raised from Rs. 600 to Rs. 800, an increase of only Rs. 200. At present, the family pension is half of the existing pension only for two years. If an ex-MP dies, his wife or the dependent will get family pension for two years only. We made it only 'life-time', so long as she or the dependent survives. It was also the recommendation of the Joint Committee.

Sir, other things will be covered by the rules. Constituency Allowance was earlier Rs. 10,000. The Committee recommended Rs. 24,000. Government has accepted Rs. 20,000. It will be covered by rules and not by the Act. Members of Parliament, at present, are entitled to office expense up to Rs. 14,000 per month. This is being raised to Rs. 20,000. Why? It was suggested by the Committee that it should be Rs. 31,000. We did not agree to it because we thought that it would be a big jump. We brought it to Rs. 20,000 per month on the following slabs. Now, there is a limit of Rs. 1,000 on the postage allowance. We increased it to Rs. 2,000 because Shri Dayanidhi Maran agreed that the cost of stamps has gone up. The limit for stationery is Rs. 3,000 at present. We increased it by Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 4,000. We increased staff assistance expense from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 14,000 because we gathered that a good computer-literate Assistant is not available unless you pay him a minimum of Rs. 10,000. Therefore, we say that a computer-literate Assistant could be paid Rs. 10,000 in Delhi and one Assistant in constituency could be paid Rs. 4,000. We have done only this much increase. It is not a big one.

Now, as per the Housing and Telephone Facilities (Members of Parliament) Rules, 1956, a Member of Parliament is entitled, without payment of charges, to a maximum of 50,000 units of electricity and 4,000 kilolitres of water per annum in respect of his accommodation in Delhi. It has been decided to amend the

rules to provide for carry forward of unutilised units of electricity and water to the subsequent years and adjustment of excess units consumed in the next year's quota. Where both husband and wife happen to be Members of Parliament and reside in the same accommodation, their entitlement of water and electricity will be pooled together. On retirement, resignation or death, a Member or his family will be entitled to consume the balance units of electricity and water for that year within a period of one month.

Monetary ceiling for rent free furniture supplied at the residence of a Member is also being raised from Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 60,000 for durable furniture and Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 15,000 for non-durable furniture.

I inquired about this from the CPWD also. The Joint Committee of Parliament too said that the cost of the furniture has not only gone up, but the repair cost has also become almost equivalent. Therefore, this is done as necessitated by the recommendation of the Committee. We have accepted this, and that too without any objection from the Finance.

At present, the family of a Member of Parliament can retain the Government accommodation for two months after the death of the Member. The period of retention of Government accommodation by the family has been considered to be raised to six months for shifting of the establishment, etc. We are increasing the period of stay for the family to six months instead of two months.

At present, the Members of Parliament are entitled to three landline telephones and one BSNL mobile phone with 1,50,000 local calls per year, which can be availed on any number of telephones in the Member's name. Now, they will be provided another BSNL / MTNL mobile phone for the constituency. Further, 20,000 additional local calls -- where constituency is 1,000 kilometres away -- will be dispensed with, as recommended by the Joint Committee.

As per the decision taken by the Committees on Provision of Computers to Members of Parliament, the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats would be extending broadband facilities to the Members in lieu of 1,000 free local calls per annum separately, in respect of each broadband connection. The Government has decided to provide the broadband facilities on one telephone subject to the condition that the rental should not exceed more than Rs. 1,500 per month.

The Joint Committee has made a recommendation for evolving a permanent mechanism for determination of salaries and allowances of the Members of Parliament. I have already admitted that I would look into it, and I am bringing a legislation in the next Session in this regard that will be effective from the 15th Lok Sabha.

These are the proposals, which will be covered by the law, and by the rules. With this, I would request the House to accept the recommendations and the provisions of the Bill, and the Rules thereunder, as stated by me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is :

> "That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 4 – Amendment of Section 5

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Shri Kharabela Swain to move Amendment No.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE): Sir, I would like to say just a couple of sentences. It was very surprising and shocking for me to find that even though I had given two amendments, yet only one amendment has been circulated. The second amendment has not been circulated. Has it not been printed?

I just want to know this from you. As a Member, I have given one amendment. It should be put for the consensus of the House. If the House does not agree, then it does not agree and the matter ends there. How is it that my amendment was not printed, and was not circulated? Let me tell you … (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Swain, your second amendment was not admitted by the hon. Speaker.

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, kindly allow me to tell you as to what that amendment was. I just want to make a mention about it. … (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It was beyond the scope. Therefore, it was rejected by our hon. Speaker.

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Why should it be rejected? I would like to tell you about it. … (*Interruptions*) I will go with my amendment, but in one sentence I would like to tell you about that amendment. This point has already been raised by many hon. Members. I wanted that there should be a new clause 10, and it should say that :

"Members will have the right to refuse the enhanced salary, allowances and pension raised through this Bill."

The only thing I wanted was that all those Members who do not want it, let them refuse it. That is the only thing I wanted to say and, that is why, I wanted to introduce this amendment, but it has been rejected. Shri Prasanna Acharya also gave a similar amendment, but his amendment has also been rejected. Why should it be rejected? It is very surprising to note that anything which does not suit some people will be rejected.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप अपना अमेंडमेंट मूव कीजिए।

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : I would like that amendment to have been included in the list. … (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): Do not argue over the decision of the Chair.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Some people wanted to make such a great sacrifice, why do we not give them the opportunity to sacrifice for the country? Shri Gurudas Dasgupta said that he is giving a dissenting note. I want that, that dissenting note to be taken care of, and they should be given ample opportunity to make sacrifices for the poor people of this country, whom they represent.

Anyway, since this amendment has not been printed, I will request the hon. Minister… (*Interruptions*)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : गोयल जी, आप बैठ जाइए।

…(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय :राम कृपाल जी, आप भी बैठ जाइए।

…(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय :कृपया शांत रहिए। Please sit down.

…(व्यवधान)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, he does not understand what I am saying, so I am not worried about it. On the only amendment that has been listed, I will make an appeal to the hon. Minister that the number should be increased by another two making it a total of thirty-six. If he agrees, it is fine; even if he does not agree, I will not press for the amendment.

I beg to move:

Page 2, line 35, *for* "thirty-four", *substitute* "thirty-six".(1)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I will consider his appeal if both of us are elected to the Fifteenth Lok Sabha.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House that the amendment moved by Shri Kharabela Swain be withdrawn?

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 5 and 6 were added to the Bill.

… (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not the time, please sit down.

Clause 7 - Amendment of Section 8 A

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : ब्रजेश पाठक जी, क्या आप अमेंडमेंट मूव करना चाहते हैं?

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक (उन्नाव) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारा संशोधन सर्कूलेट नहीं किया गया है। हमारा संशोधन था कि जो हमारे पूर्व सदस्य हैं, उनकी पेंशन के साथ डी.ए. भी जोड़ दिया जाए।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या अब आप अपना अमेंडमेंट मूव करना चाहते हैं?

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : महोदय, मैं अपना अमेंडमेंट मूव करना नहीं चाहता हूं।

Amendment made:

Page 3, line 22, *for* "six thousand rupees per mensem", *substitute "eight thousand rupees per mensem".* (4)

(Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 8 was added to the Bill.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या अब आप अपना अमेंडमेंट मूव करना चाहते हैं?

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : महोदय, मैं अपना अमेंडमेंट मूव करना नहीं चाहता हूं।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 9 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 9 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : यह किस डेट से एप्लाई होगा?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: As I stated already, it would be effective from 14.09.2006.

I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.